

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 /089 W

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R 141201Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2558

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2713

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, EGEN SU

SUBJECT: NIMEIRI MONTHLY SPEECH

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

SUMMARY: IN HIS MONTHLY TELEVISIED SPEECH TO NATION  
SEPTEMBER 13 NIMEIRI BLASTED USSR AND EAST GERMANS FOR  
SUPPORTING LIBYANS AT TIME OF EARLY JULY COUP ATTEMPT.  
HE ALSO SPOKE OF US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND PRIVATE  
INVESTMENT THAT WILL BE TAKING PLACE HERE IN NEAR FUTURE.  
IN ADDITION SUDANESE PRESIDENT MENTIONED SEVERAL IMPORTANT  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION AND  
COMMUNICATIONS IN THE COUNTRY ESPECIALLY IN SOUTHERN  
REGION. HE CRITICIZED THE PRESS AND SPOKE ABOUT INTERNAL  
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS UNDERWAY WHICH WILL ALLOW A GREATER  
DEGREE OF POPULAR PARTICIPATION. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT NIMEIRI MADE HIS MONTHLY "FACE UP THE  
NATION" TELEVISION ADDRESS SEPTEMBER 13, CLOSELY  
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FOLLOWING A MAJOR SWING THROUGH THE SOUTHERN REGION OF

THE COUNTRY. ALTHOUGH MOST OF HIS SPEECH DEALT WITH LOCAL MATTERS, PRINCIPALLY CONNECTED WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, IT WAS NOTABLE AS THE HARSHTEST RECENT ANTI-COMMUNIST STATEMENT BY NIMEIRI. IN ADDITION TO HIS BY NOW ROUTINE CRITICISM OF LIBYA FOR ITS ROLE IN THE EARLY JULY COUP ATTEMPT, NIMEIRI BLASTED MOSCOW AND EAST BERLIN. HE ATTACKED SOVIET SUPPORT OF LIBYA, AND HE WAS SPECIFICALLY CRITICAL OF EAST GERMANY'S HAVING SENT A CONGRATULATORY CABLE TO THE SUDAN COMMUNIST PARTY ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY.

2. IN CONTRAST NIMEIRI CONTINUED HIS WARM AND FAVORABLE DISCUSSION OF SUDANESE RELATIONS WITH US. HE SAID THAT AN ECONOMIC COUNCIL WITH THE US WILL BE ESTABLISHED, AND HE INFORMED THE NATION OF THE OPIC MISSION THAT WILL BE VISITING THE SUDAN. NIMEIRI ALSO BRIEFED THE COUNTRY ON RECENT USAID DEVELOPMENTS HERE. SPECIFICALLY HE SAID THAT USAID WILL PREPARE PROGRAMS IN SUCH FIELDS AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS, AGRICULTURE, COMPUTERS, TRAINING AND RESEARCH. (SEE COMMENT BELOW.)

3. NIMEIRI ALSO DESCRIBED SEVERAL OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR BETTER TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS IN THE SOUTH. FYI MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION HAS SEPARATELY INDICATED THAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO IMPROVE WATERBORNE TRANSPORT OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN THE SOUTHERN SUDAN WHICH HE SAID WILL ALLEVIATE GREATLY THE PERSISTENT AND SERIOUS PROBLEM OF MALDISTRIBUTION OF PETROLEUM SUPPLIES IN THE REGION. END FYI. NIMEIRI SAID THAT AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED WITH KENYA AND UGANDA TO BUILD HIGHWAYS FROM SOUTHERN SUDAN INTO THESE COUNTRIES. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT SUDANESE GROUND STATION PROJECT WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED SOON, AND JUBA BROADCASTING STATION IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE. THESE DEVELOPMENTS, HE SAID, WILL ALLOW SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF TELEPHONE FACILITIES AND EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT SUDAN.

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4. NIMEIRI ALSO COMMENTED ON DOMESTIC POLITICAL AFFAIRS. HE WAS CRITICAL OF LOCAL PRESS FOR SOME OF ITS RECENT COVERAGE OF POST-COUP DEVELOPMENTS. HE ALSO EXPLAINED PLANS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY TO OPEN ELECTORAL PROCESS WITHIN SSU CULMINATING NEXT FEBRUARY IN SECOND SSU NATIONAL CONFERENCE. THESE DEVELOPMENTS, HE INDICATED, WILL ALLOW GREATER POPULAR PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL AFFAIRS.

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5. NIMEIRI'S ATTACK ON MOSCOW AND BERLIN CONFIRM A TENDENCY WE HAD BEGUN TO NOTE OF SIGNIFICANTLY GREATER ANTI-PATHY TOWARDS COMMUNISTS BY GOS. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE NIMEIRI HAS BEEN SUSPICIOUS OF COMMUNISTS EVER SINCE THEY ATTEMPTED TO UNSEAT HIM IN 1971. AS FAR AS WE KNOW LOCAL COMMUNISTS TRIED TO AVOID INVOLVEMENT IN JULY 1976 COUP ATTEMPT, BUT NIMEIRI, PROBABLY INFLUENCED ALSO BY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EGYPT, SEES SOVIET HAND IN EVENTS HERE. AS FOR EAST GERMANS, WE UNDERSTAND THAT AMONG COMMUNIST DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS HERE, THEY HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAINTAINING CONTACT WITH LOCAL COMMUNISTS.

6. ON OTHER ASPECTS OF SPEECH, NIMEIRI TYPICALLY IS PREMATURE IN DESCRIBING US PROGRAMS. HE, AS DO OTHER OFFICIALS AND PRESS HERE, TEND TO DESCRIBE AS HAVING BEEN DECIDED THAT WHICH IS UNDER REVIEW. IN THAT SENSE HE MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT OVERLY OPTIMISTIC IN DESCRIBING SOME OF THE OTHER PROJECTS ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND A US FIRM MAY HAVE WON AN \$18 MILLION CONTRACT IN CONNECTION WITH THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS (GROUND STATIONS) PROJECT.

7. NIMEIRI'S REMARKS ON PRESS APPARENTLY WERE MADE IN CONNECTION WITH SOME ITEMS WHICH APPEARED IN "AL-AYYAM" WHICH PUBLISHED WITHOUT COMMENT FULL TEXTS OF STATEMENTS MADE BY COUP LEADERS HUSSEIN AL-HINDI AND SADDIQ AL-MAHDI. SINCE AYYAM IS PUBLISHED BY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY SULEIMAN THIS RAISES QUESTION OF WHETHER THIS SENIOR OFFICIAL IS PRESENTLY IN DOGHOUSE.  
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## Message Attributes

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